

Guidelines for Admission

1) **The Referral:** A prospective participant may be referred by an attorney, judge, treatment provider, family member, detention center staff or other concerned person.

(Note: A referral does not assure acceptance into the program.)

2) **Defense Attorney:** The Defense Attorney must consent to the Mental Health Court staff speaking with the potential participant to determine eligibility for the program.

3) **Prosecuting Attorney:** The Prosecuting Attorney also must agree that the potential participant should be screened for the program.

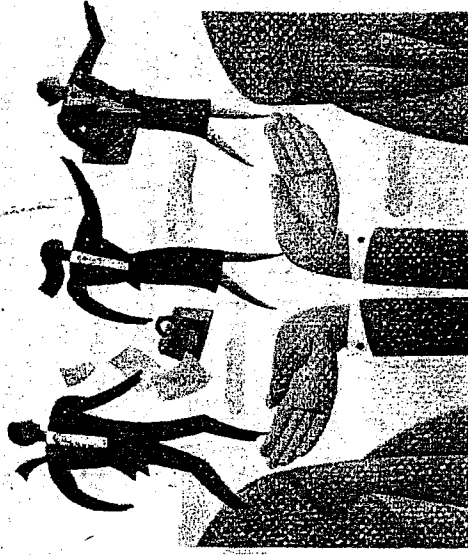
4) **Screening:** The Mental Health Court staff meets with the potential participant, in the detention center, if necessary: (a) To assess willingness to participate into the program; (b) To perform eligibility screening; (c) To complete all necessary paperwork, such as releases of information to obtain records.

5) **Intake Procedure:** If eligibility criteria are met, Mental Health Court staff: (a) completes all necessary forms; (b) obtains pertinent records; and (c) develops a preliminary court treatment plan.

6) **Acceptance or Denial in Program:** Once the screening is completed, the team discusses the case and decides whether or not to accept the potential participant for the program.

7) **Acceptance:** The participant is notified of acceptance and given a date to appear in Mental Health Court to review/sign the participant agreement and Mental Health court treatment plan. The Judge then welcomes the participant into the Mental Health Court Program.

Missoula's Mental Health Court Program



TOGETHER WE CAN
ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS

For Information Contact:

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EXHIBIT 1

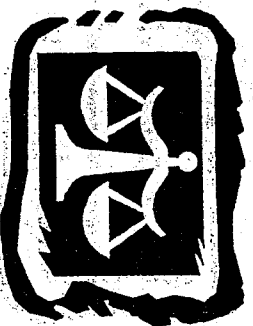
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What is Mental Health Court?

The Missoula Mental Health

Court Program was developed to improve the response of the Missoula County criminal justice system to people with a mental disorder. A mental health court diverts from jail to treatment, people with serious mental disorders charged with misdemeanors and non-violent felonies. Participants develop a court treatment program that includes mental health and chemical dependency treatment. The court monitors a participant's compliance with the court treatment program.



The Court works to improve a participant's recovery and reduce his or her involvement in the criminal justice system.

The U.S. Department of Justice provided funding for the program. Grant No. 2003 DDBX0208.

The Missoula Mental Health Court Program strives to improve public safety and work with people who have mental disorders who enter the criminal justice system. Staff is committed to allocating resources, training, and expertise to address the unique needs of persons with serious mental disorders who are charged with criminal offenses.

Elements of Mental Health Court

- ◆ Participation is voluntary.
- ◆ Participants have a diagnosed mental illness or co-occurring disorder which has contributed to the situation that resulted in their involvement in the criminal justice system.
- ◆ Public safety is a high priority. Participants are carefully screened prior to admission.
- ◆ Early intervention is essential, with referral and screening occurring immediately after criminal charges or as soon thereafter as possible.
- ◆ The Mental Health Court staff provides supervision and case management to participants.

Why Participate?

Participants in Mental Health

Court may be able to remain in the community for treatment rather than leaving the community or obtaining treatment in a more restrictive placement. Participants may get a lesser criminal sentence or may not be sentenced to any jail or prison time.

Participants who need it will get help with services such as housing, job training and medical care.

For more details about the mental health court program or benefits of participation, contact the Mental Health Court Coordinator or your attorney.